THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b The proposal regarding opening of a halt station at Parvathipuram has been examined and not found operationally feasible and commercially justified.

Strengthening the rail system in ECoR

2123. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that ECoR is on the up-swing both in freight and passenger traffic in the last fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details of their earnings of both passenger and freight traffic during the above period; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to modernize and strengthen the rail system of this region to meet with the additional traffic needs as a result of fast industrialization of this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The passenger and freight earnings of East Coast Railway for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Earning	2005-06	2006-07
Passenger	333.08	398.37
Freight	3564.34	3967.77

(c) The action plan of Government to modernize and strengthen the rail system in Orissa portion is given below:

A. Sanctioned works

SI. No.	Description of works	No. of works	KMS
1.	New Lines	8	1173
2	Doublings	13	516
3.	Gauge conversion	1	50

B. Traffic facility works sanctioned at 56 stations in Orissa.

C. World Class Stations - Bhubaneswar identified.

D. Model Stations - 8 declared.